

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached three replacement sheets of drawings includes the following changes to:

- FIG. 1-A (added element 101a, when identified in conjunction with 101b to form element 101);
- FIG. 1-B (added element 103b);
- FIG. 1-C (added element 103a)
- FIG. 1-D (added element 103)
- FIG. 1-E (added elements 105a and 105b, together forming element 105), and
- FIG. 1-G (moved element 105a, when identified in conjunction with 105b to form element 105).

These sheets replaces the original sheets including FIG. 1-A, FIG. 1-B, FIG. 1-C, FIG. 1-D, FIG. 1-E, and FIG. 1-G.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets as noted above

REMARKS

Objections

Initially, the Office objects to the drawings pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.83, reasoning that the visor coupling system is not shown in the drawings as originally submitted. Attached to this Response are substitute drawings which identify the visor coupling system 103, as recited in Claims 5, 7, 8, 15 and 16. The element numbers added to the Figures are not new matter, as support for these elements is found in the specification at Page 6, Paragraph 0023 (e.g., the visor coupling system 103 comprising “at least a second hook coupler 103a and a second pile coupler 103b which are adapted to be securely engaged to a surface of each visor 14 and the material.”). The Applicant submits that the missing elements from the drawings as originally submitted are not necessary to understand the invention, as the visor coupling system 103 is adequately described in the text of the specification.

The Office also objected to the drawings, reasoning that reference characters 101, 103, 103a, 103b and 105 were not shown in the drawings. Attached to this Response are substitute drawings which correct this typographical error. Support for each of the drawing amendments are found throughout the specification, including Paragraphs 22-28.

The Office also objected to the drawings, reasoning that reference characters 205a and 205b were not shown in Figure 2-D of the drawings. Included with this Response is additional text pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b) discussing reference characters 205a and 205b. Those of skill in the art will realize that this text does not include new subject matter, as the added text merely reiterates the role of an alternative visor coupling system which is similar to the embodiment found in Figure 1-G.

The Office also objected to several passages of the specification, noting typographical errors. The Applicant has provided amendments to some of the cited passages to provide better clarity, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejection Pursuant to 35 USC § 112

The Office rejects Claim 20 as being indefinite, and asks a “sunlight deflection apparatus of substantially the same material as what item?” Claim 20 has been amended to better characterize that the present invention may be “formed” of substantially the same material throughout (e.g., bubble wrap, for example, as noted in Paragraph 0021). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejections Pursuant to 35 USC § 102

The Office rejects claims 1-3, 5, 6, 13-15 and 20 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,979,967 (the “Poulson patent”).

“Under 35 U.S.C. 102, every limitation of a claim must identically appear in a single prior art reference for it to anticipate the claim.” *Gechter v. Davidson*, 116 F.3d 1454 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (emphasis added). In this regard, the Poulson patent is not an anticipatory reference to the claims as amended for several reasons:

For example,. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the light blocking apparatus is of sufficient width, height and shape to completely cover the sunlight transmission area. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, including at Paragraphs 0020, 0021 and FIG. 1-D. Claim 1 is further amended to recite that the apparatus is removably securable to the rear view mirror from above the rear view mirror. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, including at Paragraphs 0022, FIG. 1-D, FIG. 1-F and FIG. 2-C. Finally, Claim 1 is further amended to recite that the coupling system includes at least a first hook coupler and at least a second pile coupler, the first hook coupler placed on the rear view mirror in a substantially vertical orientation relative to any horizontal surface, the first pile coupler placed on the apparatus in a substantially horizontal orientation relative to the surface. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, including at Paragraph 0023 and FIG. 1-A, FIG. 1-B, FIG. 1-C and FIG. 1-D.

Similar amendments are made to Claims 13 and 20. Additionally, Claim 13 is amended to recite that the present invention is adapted for placement on a rear view mirror arm from an adjacent

position next to a headliner within the vehicle. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, including at Paragraph 0025, FIG. 1-D, FIG. 1-F and FIG. 2-C.

Examining the cited claims in light of the Poulson patent illustrates several deficiencies under §102:

| Recitation of Claim 1 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| A method for substantially reducing glare from sunlight when operating a vehicle having at least one pair of visors adjacent to a main viewing window, the visors spaced sufficiently apart from each other and from the vehicle's rear view mirror thereby defining a sunlight transmission area, the method comprising the steps of: | Poulson fails to disclose a method for substantially reducing glare in a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50. |
| introducing a light blocking apparatus, the apparatus being of sufficient width, height and shape to completely cover the sunlight transmission area while allowing operation of the vehicle; and | Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which completely covers a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50. |
| allowing the apparatus to be removably securable to the rear view mirror in the sunlight transmission area from above the rear view mirror by a coupling system, , the coupling system comprising at least a first hook coupler and at least a second pile coupler, the first hook coupler placed on the rear view mirror in a substantially vertical orientation relative to any horizontal surface, the first pile coupler placed on the apparatus in a substantially horizontal orientation relative to the surface.. | <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which is removably securable to a rear view from above the rear view mirror. Rather, Poulson's apparatus is attached from a position below the mirror, or "passed upwardly in front of the mirror with the slot receiving the mirror". <i>See</i> Poulson patent, Col. 4, <i>ll.</i> 30-32.</p> <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus having a coupling system comprising at least a first hook coupler and at least a second pile coupler, the first hook coupler placed on the rear view mirror in a substantially vertical orientation relative to any horizontal surface, the first pile coupler placed on the apparatus in a substantially horizontal orientation relative to the surface.. Rather, Poulson patent discloses a coupling system having a loop portion 44 attached to the layer surface</p> |

| Recitation of Claim 1 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| | <p>42 along a complete outer boundary of the entire device as seen in Figure 2. <i>See also</i>, Poulson patent, Col. 3, l. 64 – Col. 4, l. 2. Those of skill in the art realize that fastening systems such as Velcro, disclosed by the Poulson patent, are very expensive so that using more Velcro material along an outer boundary as disclosed by the Poulson apparatus results in a significantly more expensive product. The present invention overcomes this problem by only reciting that the coupling system be of substantially smaller proportion and orientation.</p> |

| Recitation of Claim 13 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| <p>An article of manufacture for substantially reducing glare from sunlight when operating a vehicle having at least one pair of visors adjacent to a main viewing window, the visors spaced sufficiently apart from each other and from the vehicle's rear view mirror thereby defining a sunlight transmission area, the apparatus comprising:</p> | <p>Poulson fails to disclose a method for substantially reducing glare in a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50.</p> |
| <p>a light blocking apparatus, the apparatus being of sufficient width and height to completely cover the sunlight transmission area while allowing operation of the vehicle, the apparatus including a notch adapted to receive an arm from an adjacent position next to a headliner within the vehicle which connects the rear view mirror to the main viewing window,</p> | <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which completely covers a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50.</p> <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which is removably securable to a rear view from above the rear view mirror. Rather, Poulson's apparatus is attached from a position below the mirror, or "passed upwardly in front of the mirror with the slot receiving the mirror". <i>See</i> Poulson patent, Col. 4, ll. 30-32.</p> |

| Recitation of Claim 13 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| <p>and a coupling system on the apparatus, the coupling system adapted to removably secure the apparatus into and from the sunlight transmission area, the coupling system comprising at least a first hook coupler and at least a second pile coupler, the first hook coupler placed on the rear view mirror in a substantially vertical orientation relative to any horizontal surface, the first pile coupler placed on the apparatus in a substantially horizontal orientation relative to the surface.</p> | <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus having a coupling system comprising at least a first hook coupler and at least a second pile coupler, the first hook coupler placed on the rear view mirror in a substantially vertical orientation relative to any horizontal surface, the first pile coupler placed on the apparatus in a substantially horizontal orientation relative to the surface.. Rather, Poulson patent discloses a coupling system having a loop portion 44 attached to the layer surface 42 along a complete outer boundary of the entire device as seen in Figure 2. <i>See also</i>, Poulson patent, Col. 3, <i>l.</i> 64 – Col. 4, <i>l.</i> 2. Those of skill in the art realize that fastening systems such as Velcro, disclosed by the Poulson patent, are very expensive so that using more Velcro material along an outer boundary as disclosed by the Poulson apparatus results in a significantly more expensive product. The present invention overcomes this problem by only reciting that the coupling system be of substantially smaller proportion and orientation.</p> |

| Recitation of Claim 20 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| <p>A device for shielding sunlight transmission that occurs in a sunlight transmission area in a vehicle, the vehicle having at least one pair of visors adjacent to a main viewing window, the visors spaced sufficiently apart from each other and from the vehicle's rear view mirror thereby defining the sunlight transmission area, the device comprising</p> | <p>Poulson fails to disclose a method for substantially reducing glare in a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50.</p> |
| <p>a sunlight deflection apparatus formed of substantially the same material, the apparatus being of sufficient width, height and shape to completely cover the sunlight transmission area,</p> | <p>Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which completely covers a sunlight transmission area. Rather, as seen in Figure 1, for example, Poulson expressly discloses an apparatus which still allows light to pass</p> |

| Recitation of Claim 20 | Deficiency of the Poulson patent |
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| | therethrough between an area between the visors 21 and above apparatus 50. |
| the device adapted to be removably securable to the rear view mirror from above the rear view mirror by a coupling system. | Poulson fails to disclose an apparatus which is removably securable to a rear view from above the rear view mirror. Rather, Poulson's apparatus is attached from a position below the mirror, or "passed upwardly in front of the mirror with the slot receiving the mirror". See Poulson patent, Col. 4, <i>ll.</i> 30-32. |

Because the Poulson patent fails to disclose every limitation recited in Claims 1, 13 and 20 as illustrated by the foregoing tables, the Poulson patent cannot qualify as an anticipatory reference to these claims and those claims which are dependant thereon (i.e., Claims 2-12 and 14-19).

In light of the foregoing amendments, reasons and attached replacement sheets, the Applicant respectfully requests the Office to withdraw the pending objections and rejections, and allow the present application to issue. The undersigned would welcome a phone call from the Office to expedite the resolution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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